

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1036-01
Bill No.: SB 306
Subject: Children and Minors; Courts; Domestic Relations; Family Law; Guardians;
Marriage and Divorce; Social Services Department
Type: Original
Date: February 4, 2003

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 3 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

The **Office of the State Courts Administrator** assume that this proposal would not fiscally impact their agencies.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services - Division of Family Services (DFS)** state that this proposal requires the court to appoint a guardian ad litem (GAL) where there are substantiated allegations of child abuse and neglect as opposed to only alleged abuse and neglect. DFS states since this proposal addresses those situations in which custody, visitation, or support of a child is a contested issue, it does not directly impact the DFS. Because a GAL would only be appointed when child abuse and neglect has been substantiated, the DFS assumes that GALs would be appointed in fewer instances. The DFS assumes no fiscal impact as result of this proposal.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2004 (10 Mo.)	FY 2005	FY 2006
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government

FY 2004
(10 Mo.)

FY 2005

FY 2006

\$0

\$0

\$0

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

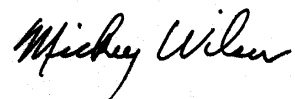
DESCRIPTION

This proposal specifies that the court must appoint a guardian ad litem where there are substantiated allegations of child abuse and neglect. The court may order an investigation and report, which shall be conducted by the local department of social services caseworker, the county juvenile officer, or any other competent person.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of State Courts Administrator
Department of Social Services



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
February 4, 2003